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species can, however, be considered congeneric with the latter, the character of the "strong teeth" must be better known.

LEPTOPHIDIUM PROFUNDORUM Gill.

The greatest height equals about a tenth of the extreme length, and is developed at the pectoral region; it thence almost uniformly decreases to the end, and at the anus equals an eleventh of the same; the thickness behind the pectoral fins equals seven-tenths of the height, and almost uniformly decreases to the end like the height. The anus is at the end of the first third of the length.

The head forms rather less than a sixth of the length, and is transversely convex above and moderately inflated on the sides; the greatest width equals half its length. The eye is rather longer than the snout, subcircular, and its diameter slightly exceeds two-sevenths of the head's length; its pupil is small, the diameter equalling only a third of that of the eye. The width of the interocular region rather exceeds two-ninths of the head's length. The supramaxillary ends behind under the hinder margin of the pupil.

The dorsal fins commence nearly over the middle of the pectoral fin, and with the second fifth of the length and is moderately high; the anal commences immediately behind the anus, and is about as high as the dorsal; the caudal rays of the fin are the longest. The pectoral fin little exceeds half the head's length, and the longest branch of the ventral is less than a third of the head's length, and three-fifths greater than the shorter.

The color is a light rufous; the vertical fins margined with black.

The following table shows the relative proportions:

Extreme length, (7 in.) 100; Length to end of middle caudal rays.

Body.—Greatest height 10; greatest width 7; height at anus 9; width at anus 7; height between anus and caudal $6\frac{1}{2}$.

Head.—Greatest length 16; distance from snout to nape 11; greatest width 8; width of interocular area $3\frac{1}{2}$; height of preorbital $1\frac{1}{2}$; length of snout 4; length of supramaxillary 6.

Eye.—diameter $4\frac{1}{2}$; diameter of pupil $1\frac{1}{2}$.

Dorsal (*spinous*).—Distance from snout 21; height over anus 4; height near caudal 5.

Anal.—Distance from snout 33; height at middle $4\frac{1}{2}$; height near caudal 4.

Caudal.—Length of middle rays $5\frac{1}{2}$; length of external rays.

Pectoral.—Length $8\frac{1}{2}$.

Ventral.—Length of longer branch 5; length of inner branch 3.

A single specimen of this species, seven inches in length, was obtained by Commodore Rodgers, from the sounding line, at a depth of thirty fathoms in the Gulf stream, off the coast of Florida. It is in very fine condition.

The species is distinguished from the *brevibarbe*, if that fish indeed belongs to this genus, at least by the more anterior anus, the smaller mouth and the more posterior origin of the dorsal fin.

Sept. 1st.

MR. CASSIN in the Chair.

Seventeen members present.

Mr. Kilvington exhibited a specimen of Arctic soil, brought home by Dr. Hayes in a box with Arctic plants. After repeated trial, Mr. K. had failed to induce anything to grow in the soil.

The following papers were presented for publication:

"Synopsis of the subfamilies and genera of Berycoidea;" "Synopsis 1863.]

of the North American Gadoids ;" Description of the genera of Gadoid and Brotuloid Fishes ;" "Synopsis of the Lycodoidæ ;" and "Synopsis of the Lepturoids," etc. By Theodore Gill.

"On Strepomatidæ, etc." By S. S. Haldeman.

Sept. 8th.

DR. McEUEEN in the Chair.

Sixteen members present.

Prof. Porter made the following communication :

During the month of August of the present year I devoted a day to the collection of fresh-water shells from the Juniata River, near Alexandria, Huntingdon County, Penna., and whilst engaged in the search, observed large numbers of *Unio complanatus*, Say, which had left the channel of the stream and crawled to its very margin, into little shallow pools, where the water was quiet and warm. They lay with the hinge down and the edge up, the valves slightly apart. This struck me as singular, and I touched several of them with my cane, when the valves were forcibly closed, and a greenish slime ejected upward for a considerable distance. The slime did not dissolve, but floated on the surface. I afterward noticed pools that were covered with it, no doubt from voluntary emissions. This mucus-like substance was probably the semen of the male. I had no microscope with me of sufficient power to reveal the presence of spermatozoa, and have since regretted that I did not bring some of the material home for examination. Some of the individuals observed may have been females, in a similar position, in order to receive impregnation.

The following were presented for publication :

"Notes on the Labroids of Western North America," and "Synopsis of the Pomacentroids," etc. By Theo. Gill.

Sept. 15th.

DR. BRIDGES, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Fourteen members present.

Dr. Leidy exhibited a female Phalangopsis, which he had found in an active condition rolled in a leaf of a spice bush, *Benzoin odoriferum*, in the manner of the lepidopterous leaf rollers, for which he happened to be seeking at the time. This habit was new to him, nor had he observed any previous account of it. The insect he had always found beneath stones and logs. The edges of the cone enclosing the insect adhered apparently by a mucoid cement, and had every appearance of having been made by the Phalangopsis, which hopped away after it was released.

Sept. 22d.

DR. BRIDGES, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Fifteen members present.

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